

REMARKS

A telephone interview was conducted on August 31, 2010 between Examiner Justin Jonaitis, Examiner Dinh Nguyen, and Applicants' representative Mark Svoboda. This interview was initiated by Applicants' representative to clarify the grounds of rejection set forth in the Office Action mailed July 1, 2010. The interview focused on the interpretation of the term "seating line" as recited in Applicants' claim 1. No agreement on allowability of any claims was sought or reached in the interview. Applicants appreciate the opportunity to clarify with the Examiners the interpretation given the term "seating line" and the suggestions for improving claim language to more clearly and distinctly describe Applicants' invention.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 is amended to more clearly and distinctly describe the "seating line", substantially incorporating language previously contained in claim 2. Claim 2 is canceled. Claims 3 and 4 are amended to depend from claim 1, as necessitated by cancellation of claim 2. No new matter is introduced by these claim amendments.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102

Claims 1-4 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No 1,952,816 to Mock. Applicants traverse this rejection.

Applicants' invention in claim 1 is amended to specify, in part, that the valve member (10) further comprises an annular ridge (40) protruding from at least one of the surface of the upstream seat region (22) and the surface of the downstream seat region (20, 24) and being

disposed immediately downstream of the upstream seat region (22), wherein the protruding annular ridge (40) includes an upstream ridge region (44) and an adjacent downstream ridge region (46), said protruding annular ridge (40) defining an annular seating line (112) at the intersection of the upstream and downstream ridge regions (44,46), said seating line having a seat diameter, the seating line (112) being engageable with the valve seating surface (14) to control fuel injection from the nozzle body (16).

In contrast, Mock teaches a valve 14 having a conical head 15 adapted to cooperate with the conical valve seat 11 and form a tight joint therewith (page 1, lines 90-98). Applicants submit that this is not a teaching of a protruding annular ridge that includes an upstream ridge region and an adjacent downstream ridge region that defines an annular seating line at the intersection of the upstream and downstream ridge regions, the seating line being engageable with the valve seating surface to control fuel injection from the nozzle body, as specified in Applicants' amended claim 1.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 as amended is patentable over Mock, and requests that the rejection of claim 1 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Regarding claims 3-4 and 12, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims are allowable at least for the reason that they depend from claim 1, which is believed to be allowable. Applicants request that the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection of claims 3-4 and 12 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

The Office Action rejects claims 5-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patent No 1,952,816 to Mock. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 5-11 are allowable at least for the reason that they depend from claim 1, which is believed to be allowable. Applicants request that the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 5-11 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

It is believed, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, that all grounds of objection and rejection have been addressed and overcome, and that all claims are in condition for allowance. If it would further prosecution of the application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the phone number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,

/Mark H. Svoboda/

Mark H. Svoboda
Reg. No. 64,953

Telephone (248) 813-2653
Delphi Technologies, Inc.
Legal Staff – M/C 483-400-402
P.O. Box 5052
Troy, Michigan 48007-5052